

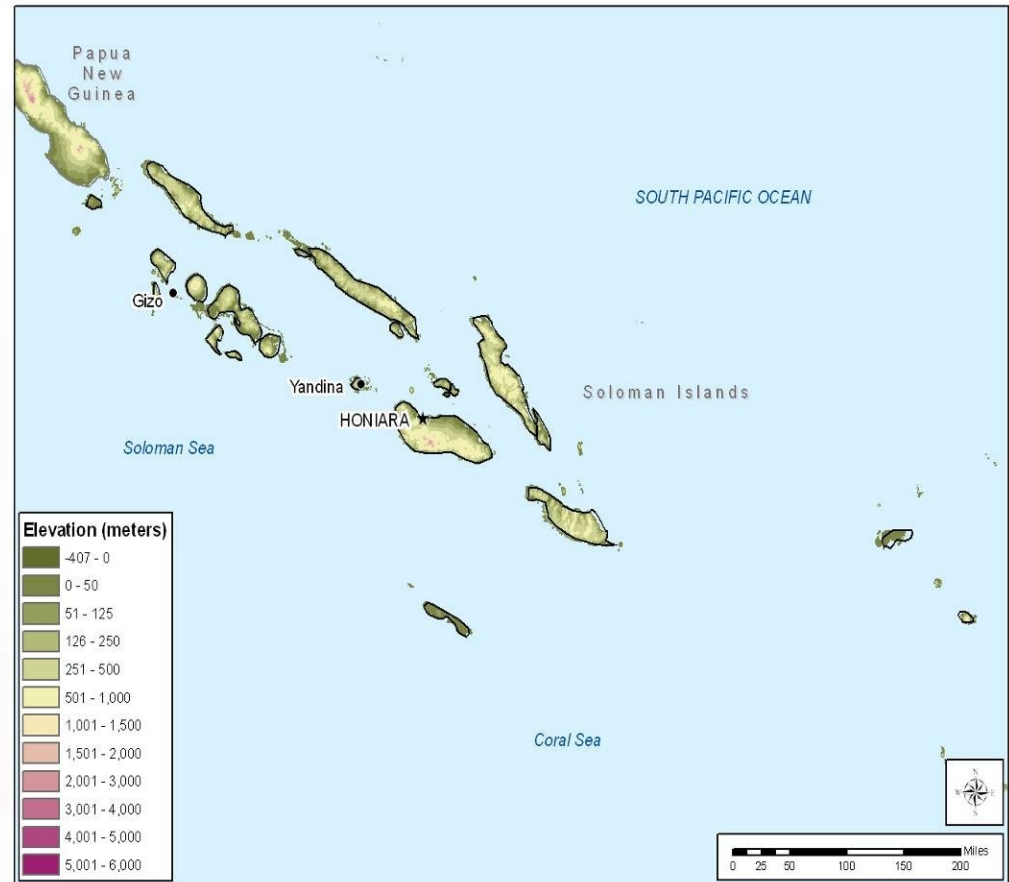
Solomon Islands

- Self-government achieved in 1976
- Ethnic violence and government misconduct followed
- 2003 – Australian led multinational force began restoring peace



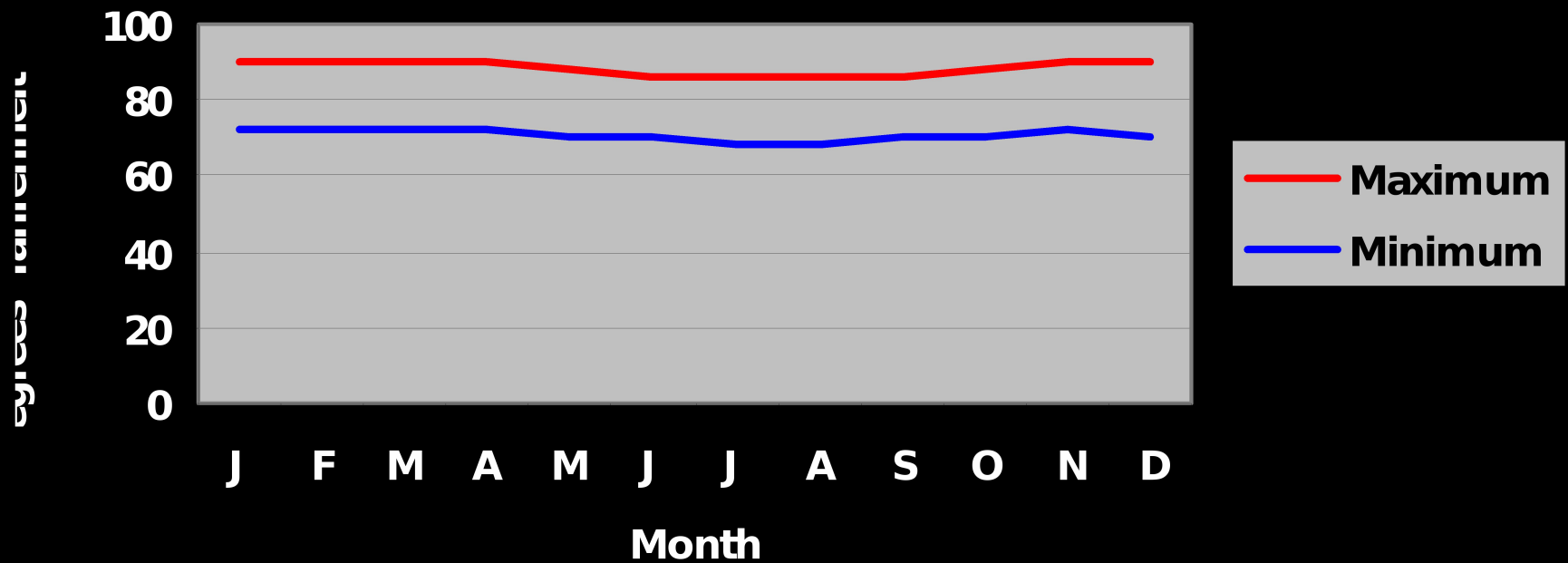
Physical Environment

- **Topography**
 - **Mostly rugged mountains**
 - **3,300 miles of coastline**
- **Climate**
 - **Few temp extremes**
 - **High humidity and uniform temps**
 - **Tropical monsoons**



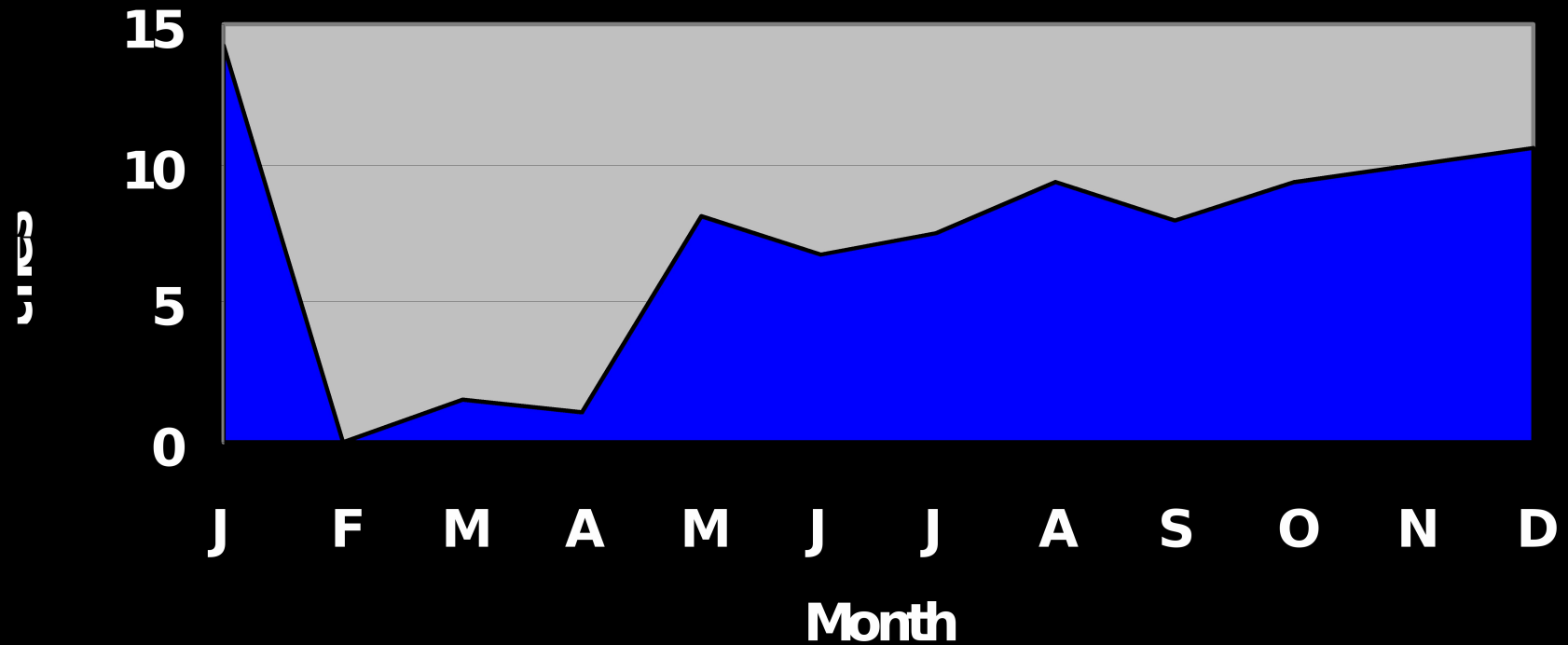
Physical Environment

Average Max/Min Temperature



Physical Environment

Average Total Precipitation



Environmental Health Risk

- **Greatest short-term health risks**
 - **Consumption of water contaminated with raw sewage or industrial waste**
 - **High heat and humidity**
- **Greatest long term risks**
 - **None reported**



Infectious Disease Risk

- **HIGH RISK** for infectious diseases
- Without force health protection measures, mission effectiveness will be seriously jeopardized.

Infectious Diseases

- Foodborne and Waterborne Diseases
 - **HIGH RISK** = Diarrhea, hep A, typhoid/paratyphoid fever
 - **INTERMEDIATE RISK** = hep E
- FHP Priorities
 - Deploy appropriate PM personnel and equipment
 - Consume food, water, ice only from US-approved sources
 - Operate food preparation facilities in accordance with Army doctrine
 - Ensure proper hand washing facilities near all latrines and dining facilities and enforce

Infectious Diseases Cont.

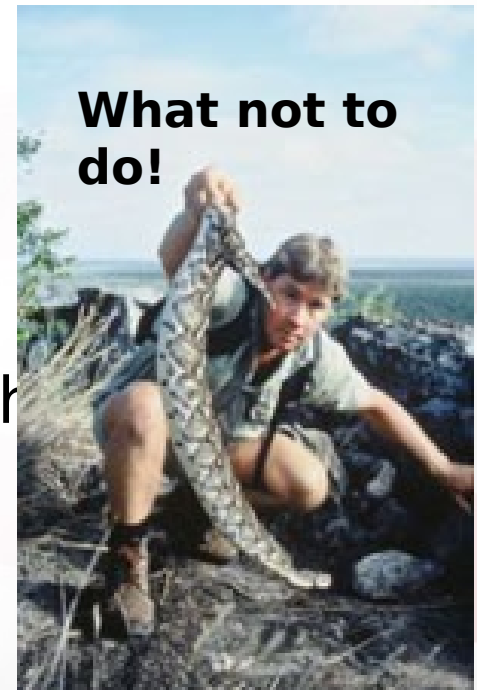
- Vector-borne Diseases
 - **HIGH RISK** = Dengue fever, Malaria
 - **INTERMEDIATE RISK** = Ross River virus, Scrub typhus

- FHP Priorities
 - Use DEET on all exposed skin
 - Treat field uniforms with permethrin
 - Use bed nets in field conditions, treat with permethrin
 - **Enforce malaria chemoprophylaxis as appropriate**



Infectious Diseases Cont.

- Animal-contact Diseases
 - **INTERMEDIATE RISK** = Anthrax, Q-fever, Rabies
- FHP Priorities
 - Avoid animal contact
 - No mascots
 - Report all animal bites and scratches



Infectious Diseases Cont.

- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
 - **HIGH RISK** = Hepatitis B
 - **INTERMEDIATE RISK** = gonorrhea, HIV
- FHP Priorities
 - Avoid sexual contact
 - Use latex condoms if sexually active



Infectious Diseases Cont.

- Water-contact Diseases
 - **INTERMEDIATE RISK** = leptospirosis
- FHP Priorities
 - avoid unnecessary contact with lakes, rivers, streams, and other surface water

There will not be a sign like this.

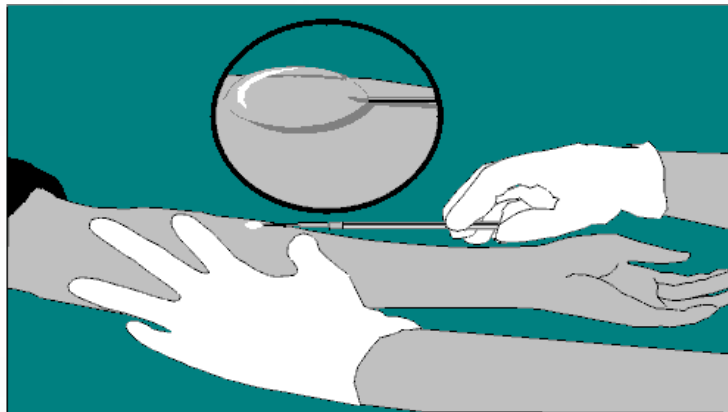
LEPTOSPIROSIS
HEALTH HAZARD

FRESH WATER STREAMS AND MUD
POSSIBLY POLLUTED WITH BACTERIA

SWIM, BOAT,
OR HIKE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Infectious Diseases Cont.

- Respiratory Diseases
 - **INTERMEDIATE RISK** = tuberculosis
- FHP Priorities
 - Tuberculin skin test before and after deployment
 - Avoid close contact with local population



Hazardous Animals & Plants

- **Animals**

- Solomon Islands are rabies free
- No venomous land snakes

- **Marine Life**

- Coral, jellyfish, poisonous fish, sea snakes

- **FHP Priorities**

- Do not handle animals
- Shake out boots, clothing, & bedding
- Do not touch, chew, eat, or burn unfamiliar plants



SUMMARY

- Physical Environment
- Infectious Diseases = **High Risk**
- Hazardous Animals and Plants
- FHP measures are simple and effective
 - Use and Enforce
 - Will conserve the fighting strength

